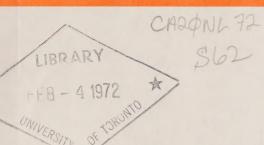
Ontario Human Rights Commission

Special Announcements

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NEW HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR NAMED

Ontario Labour Minister Gordon Carton, Q.C., announced that Miss Valerie Kasurak of Windsor has been appointed a Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

In announcing the appointment Mr. Carton said that Miss Kasurak's extensive experience will be of great value to the work of the Commission. He said she has made significant contributions in many areas of public life as vice-president of the United Community Services of Greater Windsor, Chairman for Citizenship and Immigration of the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario, President of the Windsor Life Underwriters Association and member of the Windsor Press Council.

As a member of the Ukrainian Canadian Business and Professional Association and a member of the Windsor Advisory Committee on Employment, to which she was appointed by the Ontario Government in 1968, Miss Kasurak has expressed her strong interest and concern with the employment problems faced by many new immigrants and minority groups.

Her experience with the United Nations will also be valuable to the Commission. She was an alternate representative for Canada to the U.N. Human Rights Commission in New York in 1964 and in Geneva, Switzerland in 1965.

Born in Brandon, Manitoba, Miss Kasurak grew up in Windsor and was educated at Assumption College and the University of Western Ontario.

The Chairman of the Ontario Human Rights Commission, Dr. Daniel G. Hill, announced that Robert W. McPhee has been named Director of the Commission. Before his promotion he was Assistant Director.

Mr. McPhee first joined the Commission in March, 1966 as a Human Rights Officer and was sent to open the northern regional office in Thunder Bay. During that period, he travelled extensively throughout northeastern and northwestern Ontario, establishing liaison with Indian bands and organizations and bringing to the attention of the Commission problems facing citizens of Indian ancestry in the Province.

In 1969 Mr. McPhee was appointed Chief of Field Services for the Commission, at which time he supervised the development of community action programs throughout the Province. Later that year, he was appointed Assistant Director and as such was responsible for all Commission regional offices, as well as carrying other responsibilities.

Mr. McPhee is a Minister of the United Church of Canada and served in United Church parishes in Nova Scotia and throughout Ontario before joining the Commission. He also served as Minister of an inter-racial church near Rochester, New York and was deeply involved in programs to assist Black migrant labourers.

Mr. McPhee was at one time a high school teacher in the Province of Quebec.

He is a graduate of McMaster University, where he majored in the social sciences. He received a degree in theology from Emmanuel College of the University of Toronto and took additional post-graduate studies at Colgate Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, New York.

He was born in Toronto, is married and has four children. He resides in the borough of Scarborough.

